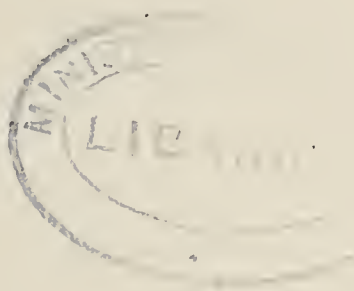


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NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1 9 5 4

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health

STEPHEN KNIGHT
M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

A. EDE - Certified Sanitary Inspector
Certified Meat & Foods Inspector
Sanitary Science Certificate

Additional Sanitary Inspectors


G.I.JONES - Certified Sanitary Inspector
J.L.KELL - Certified Sanitary Inspector
Certified Meat & Foods Inspector

Pest Officer

R.T.WOOLCOMBE

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To the Chairman and Members of
THE NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1954.

As in previous years, Mr.Ede,Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports on the Sanitary Inspection of the District and refuse collection service. I am indebted to Mr.G.E.Knight, the Council's Surveyor and Engineer, for particulars relating to the development and control of the Council's Water Undertaking.

The health statistics of the District are favourable, in particular the infant mortality which is lower than the rate for the country as a whole. There were no outbreaks of serious infectious disease.

The provision of a piped water supply to all parts of the district accentuates the difficulties of sewage disposal in those villages where no proper facilities exist. The absence of a main sewer often prevents reconditioning of many houses, and the installation of sanitary fittings. Although sewerage schemes have been completed since the war in the Northern Parishes and Bledington, the Council's programme has been held up by the Government's economic policy.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to the Staff for their help, and to the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration.

I am,Mr.Chairman,Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1955.

NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	86,218
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	21,370
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954)	5,768
Rateable Value (at 31.3.1955)	£118,905
Sum represented by a penny rate	£471

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	349	171	178
Illegitimate	12	5	7
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>361</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>185</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population ...	16.9
Area Comparability Factor(Births) ...	1.09
Corrected Birth Rate (16.9 X 1.09 ...)	17.0

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population...	0.28
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	16.0

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	238	138	100

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population ...	11.1
Area Comparability Factory (Deaths) ...	0.96
Corrected Death Rate (11.1 x 0.96) ...	10.7

NO.30. DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, ABORTION

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Deaths per 1,000 total (live and still) births</u>
Nil	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE
(Infantile Mortality)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	8	4	4
Illegitimate	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

All infants per 1,000 Live Births ...	22.0
---------------------------------------	------

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE
(Neonatal Mortality)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	11.0
---	------

POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population, 21,370, shows little change from that of the previous year. The natural increase of population, excess of births over deaths, was 123.

BIRTH RATE

There were 361 births, the birth rate falling from the high rate of 19.9 in 1953 to 16.9 live births per 1000 of the population. Even so, it compares favourably with the rate, 15.2 for England and Wales.

DEATH RATE

273 people died, making the Death Rate 11.1 per 1000 of the population which although higher than in 1953 is still somewhat below the national rate, 11.3.

INFANT MORTALITY

Eight infants died under one year of age, so that the infantile mortality was at the rate of 22 deaths per 1000 live births. Here again the rate is higher than in the two previous years, but is still below that for the country as a whole, 25.5, which itself is the lowest ever recorded.

It will be noted that half of these infantile deaths took place in the neonatal period, within four weeks of birth. Nowadays, it is usual for a large proportion of the infantile deaths to take place in this period. The great decline in infantile mortality has occurred after the neonatal period. The causes of death of infants soon after birth are bound up with the health of the mother in pregnancy and confinement.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths.

CANCER

30 people died from cancer, 5 fewer than last year. Five of the deaths were from cancer of the lungs, an increase of two over last year.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	1	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	2	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	13	5

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	12
18. Coronary disease, angina	22	8
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	6
20. Other heart disease	29	36
21. Other circulatory disease	6	8
22. Influenza	2	2
23. Pneumonia	5	3
24. Bronchitis	2	2
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	-
34. All other accidents	9	4
35. Suicide	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
All causes	138	100

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.2	17.1	18.6	19.9	16.9
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.3	12.3	11.4	9.9	11.1
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)	28.2	24.0	5.0	19.0	22.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of Infants under 1 month)		21.0	5.0	12.0	11.0

FOR COMPARISON, THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE
MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC.

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>160 C.Bs. & Great Towns</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>North Cotswold R.D.</u>
Live Births	15.2	16.8	15.8	16.9
Still Births (per 1,000 population)	0.36	0.4	-	0.23
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.3	12.02	11.2	11.1
Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)(Per 1,000 Live Births)	25.5	29.02	24.6	22.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 Month)(Per 1,000 Live Births)	17.7		16.3	11.0

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1954
Excluding Tuberculosis

	<u>Under</u> <u>1 yr.</u>		<u>1 - 5</u>		<u>5 - 15</u>		<u>15-25</u>		<u>25 and</u> <u>upwards</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	6	4	1	-	-	-	7	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	3	28	34	28	36	-	2	-	-	62	75
Measles	-	2	26	28	53	36	-	-	-	2	79	68
Pneumonia	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	-	5	7	10	8
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	1	8
Cerebro spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Paratyphoid	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

Scarlet Fever

The incidence of scarlet fever in the District continues to be slight, and the disease itself of a mild character. Only eleven cases were notified.

DIPHTHERIA

There were no cases notified.

WHOOPING COUGH

This disease was epidemic during the year, 137 cases being notified. One young baby died from the disease. Immunisation against whooping cough is particularly valuable for very young infants in whom the disease may prove fatal and the complications severe.

MEASLES

Measles was not so prevalent as in 1953, 147 cases being notified as compared with 354. No deaths occurred.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were two cases of non-paralytic and one case of paralytic poliomyelitis, none of them fatal.

FOOD POISONING

Three cases of food poisoning occurred in one family. An investigation showed that an opened tin of brawn was contaminated with staphylococci.

- (a) Total number of outbreaks ... 1
- (b) Number of cases ... 3
- (c) Number of deaths ... -
- (d) Organisms or other agents responsible
with number of outbreaks attributable to each... Nil
- (e) Foods involved, with number of outbreaks
associated with each food ... Tinned brawn

PARATYPHOID

Two unconnected cases of paratyphoid fever were notified. In one case the source of infection was traced to a carrier. Action was taken under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953 to prevent contamination by food handling.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:

	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 or over.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vaccination	180	7	8	-	13	208
Re-vaccination	1	-	1	1	32	35

180 babies under one year of age, as against 247 in the previous year were vaccinated, representing an acceptance rate of 43%. Fewer vaccinations were carried out during the period, as there were cases of poliomyelitis in the neighbourhood.

It is hoped that the proportion of vaccinated people will increase as they are the chief barrier to the spread of infection when outbreaks occur. Air travel makes it possible for a person incubating smallpox to arrive in this Country before the symptoms develop.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

	<u>Children</u>			<u>All Persons</u>
	<u>0-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>		
Respiratory	-	-		9
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-		-
Other forms	-	1		3

Deaths

Respiratory	5
Other forms	2

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st. December, 1954 was as follows:

<u>Respiratory</u>			<u>Meninges & C.N.S.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>All Forms Total</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
42	30	81	-	1	14	11	107

Thirteen cases of tuberculosis were notified, as compared with only seven in 1953. Five people died of the disease in its different forms.

Although the number of new cases has increased, there is no undue incidence in this district.

Nowadays modern treatment has brought about a great decline in the number of deaths, but the incidence of new cases continues unchanged. Each case is investigated and measures of control instituted. The Council are able to help by offering alternative accommodation where necessary.

Frequent visits by the Mass Radiography Unit in this rural area are difficult to arrange.

A new development to prevent the spread of tuberculosis is the extension of BCG vaccination to 13 year old school children if they are found to be susceptible. By this means the resistance of the children and through them the community, may be built up and so cut across the spread of the disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
(in relation to child population)

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st. December, 1954

Age at 31.12.54	<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>
i.e. born in year	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1949-45</u>	<u>1944-40</u>
Number immunised	10	212	268	273	283	1412	1075
Total number immunised	<u>3533</u>						
Estimated mid-year population, 1954	5078						

Number of children immunised in	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1947</u>
Primary	329	267	292	460	263	320	362	341
Maintenance	255	168	262	258	260	278	238	240

The incidence of poliomyelitis also had an adverse effect on the number of children immunised against diphtheria, although 329 children under fifteen years of age were immunised as compared with 267 in 1953. 161 babies had completed the course of immunisation before their first birthday, i.e. 44% of the babies in the district.

To give full protection to the community 75% of the babies should have been immunised. Official immunity can protect a community against the disease, but constant effort is necessary to persuade everyone to avail themselves of the protection.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938
Clean Food

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food for sale and the premises comply with requirements.

The trade is most co-operative and anxious to keep to the highest standard.

The most effective measure in prevention of food poisoning is one which is in the hands of the general public. If the public insist on clean methods in the preparation and handling of food their demands will be met and food poisoning will become extremely rare.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949
Article 20

A notice requiring the heat treatment of milk produced at a certain farm remained in force.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS 1924 - 1954

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

During the late war and up to the end of June 1954, the Ministry of Food exercised complete control of the slaughter and disposal of meat for human food. Animals were slaughtered in Government controlled abattoirs, and direct control by Local Authorities lapsed.

When meat rationing came to an end in July 1954, Local Authorities were called upon to ensure that sufficient slaughter houses were available to the needs of the district until such time as the Government implemented the policy of moderate concentration of slaughtering.

Eleven slaughter houses had licences in 1939, but only three had been renewed in the intervening years. After an inspection of the slaughter houses it was decided to licence two private slaughter houses in Moreton-in-Marsh, and one in Chipping Campden.

In consultation with the butchers it was found that further needs could be met by the public abattoirs at Cheltenham and Evesham.

Owing to the amount of meat inspection carried out at the Evesham abattoir, in part of meat to be supplied to this district, the services of a qualified meat inspector were loaned to Evesham for three afternoons each month.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 20
Accommodation for Pea-Pickers and Seasonal Workers

A small proportion of the people engaged in seasonal work on the farms, such as pea picking, require lodgings in the district.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, the accommodation provided by the farmer must be of a minimum standard.

The standard is laid down in the Council's byelaws and calls for clean buildings, separate sleeping accommodation for men and women, wholesome water supply, simple cooking facilities and latrines.

Accommodation for Pea-Pickers and Seasonal Workers
(continued)

One of the lodgings in Chipping Campden was no longer available so that a few men resorted to rough road side camping under conditions likely to give rise to a nuisance.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47
Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in
Need of Care and Attention

No application was made to the Court for a Removal Order under this Section.

A number of old people living alone and in failing health have been visited from time to time. A little regular help, often from the Home Help Service, has enabled them to carry on living in their own homes, and has prevented insanitary conditions developing.

The Old People's Clubs look after their members and are useful in reporting individual cases in which help is required.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council. There is a control station at Cheltenham and a sub-station at Moreton-in-Marsh. The Ambulance Service may be obtained by telephoning Cheltenham 3112, and in emergency dialling "999" or "0" to the Local Exchange and asking for "Ambulance Service".

A Hospital Car Service is operated; 48 hours notice should be given of the requirements, and requests for this Service made to the Control Station at Cheltenham. The Service is available for taking patients to and from appointments in connection with the National Health Service when the use of public transport is not possible.

Home Help Service

This Service is organised by the County Council, and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment. The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness.

As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity. Appeals for assistance from this Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, North East Area, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the County Council. Information is available from the Divisional Health Office, Charlton Kings.

Child Welfare Centres

Blockley	Alternate Wednesdays
Bourton-on-the-Water	Alternate Tuesdays
Chipping Campden	2nd. & 4th. Wednesdays
Little Rissington	- do - -
Mickleton	2nd. Tuesdays
Moreton-in-Marsh	2nd. & 4th. Tuesdays
Stow-on-the-Wold	1st. & 3rd. Tuesdays
Willersey	2nd. Thursdays

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

H O U S I N G

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

The above Act, which came into operation on the 30th. August 1954, contains important new provisions for widening the scope of the Government's housing policy. The Act provides the statutory powers needed to implement the proposals contained in the White Paper (Cmd. 8996) "Houses - The Next Step" published in November, 1953.

Post-war housing policy has so far been mainly directed to the erection of new houses, with little attention to the condition of existing, unfit or sub-standard houses. It is now the declared intention of the Government to assist Local Authorities in carrying out their statutory responsibilities for the clearance and replacement of unfit houses, the securing of essential repairs, and the encouragement of improvements and conversions.

Until the 1954 Act came into force the only guidance given to Local Authorities for judging the fitness of houses was that, in determining whether a house was or was not fit for human habitation, regard must be had to the general standard of housing in the district and to the requirements of any local byelaws in force within the district.

Now for the first time there will be a uniform standard of fitness for habitation applicable throughout the country. Section 9, (1) of the Act reads as follows:-

" In determining for any of the purposes of the principal Act whether a house is unfit for human habitation, regard shall be had to its condition in respect of the following matters, that is to say -

- (a) repair;
- (b) stability;
- (c) freedom from damp;
- (d) natural lighting;
- (e) ventilation;
- (f) water supply;
- (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences; and
- (h) facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water;

and the house shall be deemed to be unfit as aforesaid if and only if it is so far defective in one or more of the said matters that it is not reasonably suitable for occupation in that condition.

Actually the Act contains three standards. The one mentioned above and generally referred to as the eight-point standard of fitness, to be used also as one of the conditions governing rent increases; a lesser standard to which condemned houses may be "patched" to render them "adequate for the time being"; and a higher twelve-point standard to which houses must be improved to qualify for improvement grant. This standard approximates to that of a new Council house.

Improvement Grants - Section 20, Housing Act 1949:

Section 16, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

The new Act widens the scope of the provisions relating to improvement grants, making the scheme more attractive to would-be applicants. The lower limit of cost of works eligible for grant has been reduced to £100 and the upper limit of £800 has been removed, though the maximum grant allowable is still £400. The period for which a dwelling improved by grant aid is expected to provide satisfactory accommodation has been reduced from 30 years to 15 years. Local authorities are now empowered to deal with applications, and decide on the amount of grant without reference to the Ministry.

The Minister urges Councils to do all in their power to popularise the scheme, and to encourage applications in all suitable cases.

There is no doubt that there are a large number of sub-standard houses which can be brought up to a reasonable standard of repair and amenity, at the same time preventing their further deterioration into slums, by the implementation of the improvement grant provisions. The cost to the Council and to the national exchequer is a fraction of the cost of providing new dwellings, and once a grant has been made and the dwelling improved, the cost of maintenance falls upon the private owner, and not on the authority as is the case with the Council houses.

The Council continued to make good progress in the provision of new houses. 79 were erected in 1954, making a total of 464 houses built since the war. 63 houses were in course of construction at 31st. December 1954.

Under Section 20, Housing Act, 1949 - 44 grants were approved in 1954.

HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS

- 1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation 72
- 2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 54
- 3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders. 18
- 4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works 8
- 5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices 5
- 6) The number of demolition or closing orders made 1
- 7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 11- Housing Act 1936: Housing Act 1954.... 7
- 8) The number of houses demolished.... Nil

FORMER CAMP SITES

Only one hut (at Maugersbury) is occupied.

WATER SUPPLY

(Statistics Relating to the Council's Comprehensive Water Scheme)

Population of statutory area	21,893
Population served	15,498
Area served in square miles	90
Daily average consumption (Domestic)	26 gallons per head
Daily average consumption (Trade)	12 " " "

Water Supply
(continued)

Total storage capacity	1,812,000 gallons
Length of mains	118 miles
Capital expenditure	£351,400
Total consumption	900,000 gallons per day.

The Rural Districts of Evesham, Stratford-on-Avon and Chipping Norton continue to take bulk supplies from the Council's system.

The development of the source at Seven Springs, including the provision of a new reservoir at Donnington, has been completed to enable a bulk supply to be given to the Shipston-on-Stour and Southam Rural Districts.

With regard to the bulk supply for the Air Ministry at Little Rissington Aerodrome, the Council have decided to erect an additional reservoir of 180,000 gallons capacity.

In the northern area progress is being made to provide a new Pumping Station and head works at Dovedale. These works will augment the source and pumping capacity at Mill Cottage, Blockley.

The Council have been in negotiation with the Evesham Town Council for a bulk supply of water to Evesham at Fish Hill, Broadway.

The Council's supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. One hundred and fifteen samples were taken from the Council's supply, 98 samples were classed highly satisfactory and fell in Category I; 14 samples were satisfactory in Category II, and three fell in Category III. Investigations were made as to the cause of the contaminated samples and effective remedies undertaken to prevent pollution.

Thirty four samples were taken from private sources; twenty two samples were contaminated and the appropriate action was taken with regard to the particular water supply.

The following table sets out the position with regard to water supply in the various Parishes:

	<u>Total No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of Houses supplied by Public Mains</u>		<u>No. Houses without Public Supply</u>
		(a) <u>Direct into House</u>	(b) <u>By Stand- pipe.</u>	
Adlestrop	65	-	-	65 x
Aston Subedge	31	3	-	28 x
Batsford	55	26	-	29 x
Bledington	126	112	-	14
Blockley	683	622	18	43
Bourton-on-the-Hill	112	86	4	22
Bourton-on-the-Water	497	450	28	19
Broadwell	115	49	35	31
Campden	645	612	-	33
Clapton	32	29	3	-
Condicote	34	33	-	1
Cutsdean	33	-	-	33 x
Donnington	36	30	-	6
Ebrington	185	101	-	84
Evenlode	78	64	6	8
Great Rissington	93	70	13	10

x Private piped supplies to a number of these houses.

	<u>Total No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of Houses supplied by Public Mains</u>		<u>No. of Houses without Public Supply</u>
		(a) <u>Direct into House</u>	(b) <u>By Stand- pipe.</u>	
Guiting Power	120	33	63	24
Icomb	52	41	-	11
Little Rissington	45	45	-	-
Longborough	133	114	10	9
Lower Slaughter	78	48	-	30
Maugersbury	56	33	-	23
Mickleton	270	237	4	29
Moreton-in-Marsh	545	541	-	4
Naunton	123	80	31	12
Oddington	139	114	16	9
Saintbury	36	11	-	25
Sezincote	32	4	-	28
Stow-on-the-Wold	572	503	65	4
Swell	133	125	-	8
Temple Guiting	123	31	5	87
Todenham	74	48	24	2
Upper Slaughter	82	78	4	-
Westcote	56	56	-	-
Weston-Subedge	117	89	5	23
Wyck Rissington	50	43	-	7
Willersey	182	174	-	8

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Bourton-on-the-Water

A scheme to provide a new sewage disposal works for Bourton-on-the-Water and the provision of new sewers at Rissington Road was commenced during the year.

Bledington

The Contractors commenced a new sewerage scheme for Bledington during the year.

Moreton-in-Marsh

Ministerial approval was given to the Council's scheme to provide a new storm water pumping station and new pumps for pumping foul water to the disposal works. In addition the disposal works have been enlarged by the provision of a new bacterial filter bed, and new sludge drying beds.

Stow-on-the-Wold

A scheme for the provision of sewers and sewage disposal for the town has been approved in principle by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Naunton

The Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for this village.

Blockley

Following complaints from the Severn River Board regarding pollution which is taking place from the Blockley Disposal Works the Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare a scheme for new Works for Blockley. The Engineers were asked to site the Works in order also to provide sewage disposal for Draycott and Paxford.

Little Rissington

The proposed sewage disposal works at Bourton-on-the-Water will provide for the sewerage of the village of Little Rissington and the Engineers have been instructed to prepare a scheme of main sewerage for the village.

Lower Slaughter

Drainage of properties at Lower Slaughter has been extremely difficult, and following complaints from pollution of the river the Council have instructed their Consulting Engineer to prepare a scheme of sewerage for the village to discharge into the sewers at Bourton-on-the-Water.

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1954

Complaints received	428
Informal Notices	131
Statutory Notices	12
Nuisances abated	106
Premises disinfected	11
Premises disinfested(Beetles,Fleas,etc)	31
Food Shops & Catering premises visited	522
Bakehouse visits	24
Houses inspected	456
Visits to Slaughter houses	149
Drains inspected and/or tested	541
Animal Carcasses inspected	774
Samples taken	96
Visits under Shops Act	120
Visits under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	1894
Visits made for all purposes	7606

Refuse Collection

The refuse collection timetable has been kept up to date throughout the year. This has not been easy owing to accident, tragedy and heavy repairs. Three of the vehicles are old and worn, needing constant attention, while the last new one has been proved not altogether a success. I think the replacement of these four vehicles by three diesel driven lorries would in the end prove economical.

Refuse Tips

The Fosseway tip has been shut down for most of the year owing to fire making it unsafe for use. This tip has been the cause of much complaint from people living near, mostly on account of great opposition to the use of the site for such a purpose.

Refuse Tips contd..

It is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain tipping space remote from any habitation and whereas the public are quite content to have their refuse taken elsewhere, they are indignant if refuse is brought near them.

The tips in use at present are at Fish Hill and Naunton. These are burning as a result of spontaneous combustion. Luckily no great nuisance is caused and the fire is doing useful work in destroying offensive material. It is much better for the refuse to be consumed as added, there is less danger from subsidence.

The supply of soil for covering is still a difficulty, though the purchase of a tractor and trailer has eased the position, enabling me to fetch soil to the point where required without paying exorbitant carriage dues.

Paper Salvage

Paper salvage was resumed in July and by the end of the year a profit of about £140. was made. Of course, the price has fallen a great deal but promises to improve. This profit in a full year should bring in the value of a penny rate at the present rate of progress. When more widely known this should improve, subject of course, to none of the slumps we have twice experienced.

Food Inspection

The following foods were surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption:

Tinned Foods:	Meat	63	tins
	Preserves	22	"
	Fruit	186	"
	Vegetables	50	"
	Fish	29	"
	Soup	21	"
	Fruit Juice	9	"
	Milk	44	"
	Cream	4	"
	Cereals	10	"
	Sausages	3	"
	Puddings	3	"
	Tinned Ham	7	" weighing 87lbs.

<u>Miscellaneous Foods:</u>	Wet Fish	60	lbs
	Cheese	4½	"
	Meat pies	6	
	Puff pastry	7	lbs
	Cake mixture	3	packets
	Cream powder	1	"
	Flour	2	"
	Imported Beef	37	lbs.

Home Killed Meat:	Bacon	2	lbs
	Offals	22	lbs. 10 ozs.
	Lambs	3	total weight 112 lbs
	Mutton	25	lbs. 2 ozs
	Pork	141	lbs. 10 ozs
	Calf (1)	35	lbs.
	Sausages	2	lbs.

Slaughter Houses

The return of private slaughtering has made a heavy addition to the duties of the department, 149 visits were made to these establishments and 32 beast carcasses, 9 calves, 608 sheep and 125 pigs were examined.

In addition to work in this area one Inspector is assisting at the Public Abattoir at Evesham by agreement between the North Cotswold Rural District Council, and the Borough of Evesham, for three days each month. This arrangement has only just commenced. During this duty your inspector has examined 12 beasts, 43 lambs and 1 pig. These are included in the above totals.

Food Premises

The number of premises where food is handled remains much the same as last year, to wit: 48 grocers, 20 general shops, 14 greengrocers, 17 bakers, 14 butchers, 14 confectioners, 119 caterers and 5 fish shops.

Registered premises number 93 as follows:

77 for sale of ice cream; 4 for fried fish ;

2 for sausage making; 3 slaughterhouses and 7 dairies.

321 visits were made to registered premises and the total visits to all food premises was 522.

Defects remedied include 4 Cleansed, 2 had hot water provided, 1 had walls and ceilings repaired, 1 drain cleared, 1 drainage system improved, 2 sanitary accommodation improved and 2 ventilated lobbies to W.Cs.

Ice Cream

25 samples were taken for analysis of which

19 were Grade 1

5 were Grade 2

1 was Grade 3.

These results are good and the 6 lower grades may well have been due to weather conditions.

All supplies were from wholesale manufacturers.

Fish Friers

Four premises were registered for Fish frying at the end of the year. One establishment closed down at the end of the occupier's lease.

No nuisance arose at any of these establishments during the year.

Milk Distributors

Seven premises are registered for the sale of milk.

36 milk samples were taken for analysis and 8 bottles were tested for cleanliness. 25 samples were satisfactory for cleanliness; all the bottles were found to be clean.

2 Samples failed the test for pasteurising. The two latter cases were taken up by the County Council Inspector, who is responsible for supervision of the pasteurising process.

The remaining 9 samples were in connection with an outbreak of abortion at one farm. This series of samples were a continuation of work carried out last year.

New regulations make it necessary for milk to be pasteurised and bottled on the same premises, two retailers have had pasteurising plant installed, and are processing their own and other retailers' supplies.

Caravans

29 caravan site licences were in force at the end of the year. One had been refused on Public Health grounds. No nuisance has arisen from the occupation of these sites during the year.

Public Conveniences

These premises continue to suffer nuisance by a small section of the public.

The walls of the mens' W.C. at Stow-on-the-Wold have been roughened to reduce the disfigurement by ribald scribbles.

Other damage has, I am pleased to say, been less this year, but there is still room for improvement.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This Act came into operation at the end of August, but up to the end of the year no certificates had been applied for. This is rather surprising bearing in mind the great publicity given to the matter.

Owners in this area are making no great haste to claim the increased rents, probably due to the conditions attached to increases.

Progress has been made in preparing maps to show the position of bad properties and possible areas on which the Council may wish to base their policy.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Important work has been carried out under the above Act during the year.

A summary is given below:

203 dwelling houses, 69 business premises, 48 agricultural holdings and 16 Council establishments have been inspected.

Infestations were dealt with in 124 dwelling houses, 39 business premises, 28 agricultural holdings and 10 Council establishments.

Sewers were treated in Campden, Blockley, Bourton-on-the-Water, Moreton-in-Marsh and Upper Slaughter.

Refuse tips and sewage works were dealt with as required.

The Council also retained two contracts for rat repression in the R.A.F. Stations in the area.

The estimated number of rats killed is 5,730. This estimate is based on the dead picked up, and is low owing to the large number of untraceable dead.

The Council Officers made 1894 visits in the course of this work.

In addition observation was kept for rat infestation in nearly a thousand other visits carried out under other Acts.

The Ministry concerned are anxious for the survey part of the Act to be carried out especially on farms to a greater extent, but this is not possible with the present Staff, also the Council can only recover 50% of the cost of additional surveys, that do not lead to income from work of rat repression.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank those Officers of the Council who have ably co-operated with the Department during the year.

A.EDE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

